

**DICKINSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Monday, September 26, 2011 - 6:30 p.m.

Courthouse - Circuit Courtroom

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wender at 6:30 P.M.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said by all.
3. Roll Call was taken by County Clerk Dolly Cook and a quorum was present.

Present: Chairman Wender, Vice Chairman Smith and Commissioners Degenauer Jr., Martin and Stevens. (5)

Absent: (0)

Also Present: County Clerk Dolly Cook, Prosecutor Stephanie Brule, Sheriff Scott Celello , Equalization Director Larry Swartout, Controller Kay Pascoe and Administrative Assistant Sonya Pugh.

4. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Smith to accept the agenda with the following additions:

7.A. Finance

2. Approve the request of the MSU Extension Educator to attend the MSUE Fall Extension Conference in Landing on October 11-12 at an approximate cost of \$367.

3. Authorize the Controller to sign the Child Care Fund Budget application. (The Budget is not yet in its final form but must be in Lansing by Oct. 1st.)

7.C. Crystal Center/YMCA

1. Approve a payment to the YMCA in the amount of \$1,500 for reimbursement for a bill the YMCA paid to Frazier Mechanical for the dehumidification project.

7.L. Public Safety and Judiciary

1. Authorize the Sheriff to travel as necessary to attend meetings of the LEIN/CJIS Board as a result of his approval to that Board for the term of his service on that Board.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Degenauer Jr. Aye

Martin Aye

Smith Aye

Stevens Aye

Wender Aye Motion Carried.

5. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Stevens to approve the following meeting minutes with one addition to the Regular Meeting Minutes of 9/12/11:

Joint YMCA/County Board - 9/8/11

Regular Meeting - 9/12/11

Finance Committee - 9/15/11

Commissioner Martin asked that the following be added to 7.M - 2 - Parks, end of paragraph after the first motion: "Controller Pascoe stated the camping and parking fees have not been adjusted for 6 years."

All Ayes, Motion Carried.

6. COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION:

A. Citizens' Time: (Limited to five minutes per person)

Commissioner Martin introduced the following students from Mr. Hogberg's Iron Mountain Government Class: Molly Thekan, Hailey LaFleur, Cody Alto, Phillip Koerschner, Laurie March, Willa Shampo, Cassy Secinaro, Kassidy Schaut, Levi Matchett, Vincent Webb, Keith Holmes, Zhenya Vodopyanova, Emily Maule, Breanna Henes and Anthony Fende.

Chairman Wender opened the floor to Citizens' Time and there was no participation.

B. Resolutions and Legislation - Commissioner Stevens

1. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Martin that it shall be the policy of this Board to strongly recommend to all Department Heads and Elected Officials that, when openings occur for full-time positions and part-time positions, it shall be standard practice to advertise for such positions in the local newspaper and that such openings be posted on the County web site, whenever practical.

All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Commissioner Smith stated all citizens should be notified. Pascoe stated as elected officials they do not have to comply and that is why is states "strongly recommends."

7. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

A. Finance Committee - Finance Chairman John Degenauer, Jr.

1. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Martin to authorize the Chairman to sign the Crime Victim Rights Funding Agreement from the Michigan Dept. of Community Health, Crime Victim Services Commission, for fiscal year 2012 in the amount of \$31,967.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Degenauer Jr., Aye

Martin Aye

Smith Aye

Stevens Aye

Wender Aye Motion Carried.

2. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Martin to approve the request of the MSU Extension Educator to attend the MSUE Fall Extension Conference in Lansing on October 11-12 at an approximate cost of \$367. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Martin Aye

Smith Aye

Stevens Aye

Wender Aye

Degenauer Jr. Aye Motion Carried.

3. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Stevens to authorize the Controller to sign the Child Care Fund Budget application. (The Budget is not yet in its final form but must be in Lansing by October 1st.) All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Commissioner Smith asked why we were getting this so late? Pascoe stated the State changed the date that the budget is due.

B. A-95 Review - Commissioner Joe Stevens

1. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Smith to **not** support the A-95 Review for Michigan State University's Michigan Firewise Communities Project. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

C. Crystal Lake Center/YMCA - Commissioner Frank Smith

1. Motion by Commissioner Smith, supported by Commissioner Martin to approve a payment to the YMCA in the amount of \$1,500, for reimbursement for a bill the YMCA paid to Frazer Mechanical for the dehumidification project. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Smith Aye

Stevens Aye

Wender Aye

Degenauer Jr. Aye

Martin Aye Motion Carried.

Commissioner Smith stated the step project at Pine Mountain is complete and all 500 steps were sold. He stated they have 1500 plus members at this time and twelve new programs will be started in the future.

D. Six County Employment Alliance - Commissioner Frank Smith - No Report

E. Planning and Zoning Committee - Commissioner Joe Stevens

1. Planning Commission meeting minutes of 8/25/11.

2. Conservation District Board meeting minutes of 8/16/11.

F. DHS/Community Services Agencies - Commissioner Smith - No Report

G. Dickinson-Iron Health Department - Commissioner Smith

Commissioner Smith stated they have reduced their mileage by 19% for personnel of the Environmental Health staff.

1. Health Dept. Board meeting minutes of 8/31/11.

H. Northpointe - Commissioner Ann Martin - No Report

I. Pinecrest - Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr. - No Report

J. Equalization Committee - Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr. - No Report

K. Building & Supply/Real Estate-Remodeling- Commissioner Smith

Commissioner Wender asked about the fencing around the air conditioning unit? Pascoe stated she will contact the contractor to have the fencing put up as soon as possible. She stated this was needed for security and safety.

L. Public Safety and Judiciary - Commissioner Henry Wender

1. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Smith to authorize the Sheriff to travel as necessary to attend meetings of the LEIN/CJIS Board as a result of his appointment to that Board for the term of his service on that Board. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

M. Parks Committee - Commissioner Joe Stevens

Commissioner Stevens stated he is anxious to see how the Parks did this year compared to last year. He stated he thinks we have had a good year. Commissioner Smith stated they had a good meeting with the engineer about the Dam at Hardwood and the house in the flood plains.

N. Airport Committee - Commissioner Henry Wender

Pascoe stated the roof has been completed.

O. Fair Board - Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr. - No Report

P. Library Board - Commissioner Ann Martin

1. Library Board 2012 millage information. (Library personnel will be available to provide information and answer questions.)

Motion by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Stevens to set the millage for 2012 at .90, as requested by the Library Board. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Stevens Aye

Wender Nay

Degenauer Jr. Nay

Martin Nay

Smith Nay Motion Failed,

Motion by Commissioner Martin, supported by Commissioner Smith to set the millage for the Library for 2012 at .85, which it is now, and has been for three years. Roll Call Vote: Commissioners:

Degenauer Jr., Aye

Martin Aye

Smith Aye

Stevens Nay

Wender Aye Motion Carried

Bill Cummings read a letter to the Board which is on file in the County Clerk's Office. He explained the cuts they have received. He stated Penal Fines are going down continually and this year will be 4% less.

He stated personal property cuts will also affect their bottom line. He explained some of their projects in the future. He stated usage is up. He stated the cost would be minimal to the taxpayers. He stated it would be about \$45,000 for the year. He asked for .90 mills as approved by the voter. He stated \$135,000 has been forfeited in the last four years because we only collected .85 instead of .90.

Commissioner Smith stated in these terrible times now is not the time to raise taxes no matter how little.

He stated the Library is doing a wonderful job but the fund balance is higher than last year. He stated the fund balance is 60% of the budget and that is an astounding amount. He stated the fund balance is \$44, 671 higher than the year before.

Cummings responded that between January and May when they receive their taxes, they have to use the fund balance to run the Library at \$81,000 a month. He stated it looks like more than is there and not anywhere near the \$500,000.

Commissioner Stevens asked about taking the passports when the County Clerk had to give them up? What happened there? He stated that would have been a real good revenue stream.

Cummings explained staff time and having someone there all the time to do passports. Beth explained they have a lot of part time people who are not there all the time and there was no where private for them to fill out the forms. She stated there is a large turnover and training would be a problem. She stated it is not quiet. Commissioner Stevens stated the Library is by far one of the most important buildings in our community. He stated it is one of the best in the State. He stated the people voted up to .90 and they may need the extra cash flow.

Commissioner Martin stated as small as it is, it is still a tax increase. She stated all the economic reasons for not raising the millage.

Q. Dickinson Partnership/Economic Dev. - Commissioner Joe Stevens - No Report

R. Employee Relations Committee - Commissioner Frank Smith - No Report

S. Dickinson County Hospital Committee - Commissioner Joe Stevens

Commissioner Stevens stated in the September 23rd paper the Hospital was named one of the top performers held by only 10 in Michigan along with the VA. He stated we should congratulate the Board, Staff and the Employees for the quality of work they do there. He stated he was disappointed because the headlines were Bingo Mania winners and the Hospital Story was on page 3.

T. Dickinson County Road Commission - Commissioner Henry Wender

2. Road Commission meeting minutes of 9/14/11.

U. Construction Code Commission - Commissioner John Degenauer, Jr. - No Report

V Bay West Advisory Committee - Ann Martin

Commissioner Martin stated she will request the minutes be received in a more timely manner. She stated these are dated May 12th. She stated enrollment is down 7% and Verso explained their program for students to take their program with a scholarship. She stated the Board discussed workers needed in certain fields and what effect the baby boomers retirements will have.

1. Bay West Advisory Committee meeting minutes of 5/12/11.

8. Citizens' Time: (Limited to five minutes per person):

Chairman Wender opened the floor to Citizens' Time. Barb Kramer, Iron Mountain addressed the Board. She stated she was very disappointed in the Board not giving the Library the .90. She stated the Board was going against the direct will of the people.

Pam Maule, Iron Mountain, addressed the Board. She also was disappointed in the Board not giving the Library .90. She stated the Library will be used much more. She stated the vote was for .90. She stated she hoped the High School Students here tonight will be interested in politics. She stated some students have questions and I hope they ask the Board some questions.

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS & OLD BUSINESS:** - Commissioner Stevens - None

10. **PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS:** - Commissioner Stevens - None

11. Motion by Commissioner Stevens, supported by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., to accept Committee Reports and Correspondence and Place on File. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

12. Controller's Report. - None.

13. Commissioners' Personal Privilege.

Commissioner Martin explained it was a hard vote. She stated the Library is beautiful and it does so much for the community. She stated our economic times are much different than 2008 when the millage was approved. She stated if she thought there was going to be an appreciable difference in how the Library does business, her vote would have been .90.

Commissioner Stevens stated Darryl Wickman is retiring from the City of Kingsford. He stated Darryl helped him a lot when he was on the council. He stated there were only two City Managers during his political lifetime and that is almost unheard of. He stated that is a tribute to Kingsford, He has done a wonderful job for the City of Kingsford and the County.

Commissioner Wender stated another year will bring another opportunity for a higher millage for the Library.

14. Motion by Commissioner Degenauer Jr., supported by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn, Subject to Call of Chairman at 7:20 P.M.

Henry Wender, Chairman

Dolly L. Cook, County Clerk

